

**Amendments to the Specification:**

On page 1, line 2, add the heading:

-- **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION** --.

On page 1, before line 3, add the sub-heading:

-- **Field of the Invention** --.

On page 1, rewrite the paragraph at lines 3-8 to provide a first paragraph, a sub-heading (**Background Information**) and a second paragraph, as follows:

-- The present invention relates to a ceramic tube for use in a vacuum switch or circuit breaker, the ceramic tube being cylindrical in shape with a set length and a set internal diameter, with a cylindrical end face at each end of the cylinder shape, it being possible for a metal end cap to be secured in a vacuum-tight manner, for example by soldering, to each cylindrical end face to form a vacuum chamber.

**Background Information**

In the vacuum chamber there are two contacts which can be moved apart in order to break a circuit. --.

On page 2, before line 4, add the heading:

-- **SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION** --.

On page 3, before line 7, add the heading:

-- **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS** --.

On page 3, before line 16, add the heading:

-- **DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS** --.